

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are now present in this application, with new claims 9-17 being added by the present Amendment. Currently, claims 1, 4, 10 and 14 are independent.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-3 and 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, the claims have been amended in an effort to place them in strict compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. It is noted that these amendments are non-narrowing amendments, only made for the purpose of clarification as requested by the Examiner. In view of these amendments, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection is respectfully requested.

Prior Art Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by US 2003/0213246 (Coll et al.). This rejection is respectfully traversed and is further inapplicable to new claims 9-17.

Claim 1 of the present application is directed to a method which includes steps of determining at least one desired power output value, and determining a second desired power output

value. At least the second value is determined on the basis of a mass flow, a forward-flow temperature, and a return-flow temperature of a medium to be heated. At least such a feature is not taught or suggested by Coll et al.

In the present application, a simplified method relating to power station regulation may be provided for since, in order to determine a second desired power output value, only measurements in the region of the distance heat are necessary, namely mass flow, forward-flow temperature, and return-flow temperature of a medium to be heated. As such, no turbine-specific influencing parameters need to be measured or taken into account. Accordingly, a desired simplification of the regulating method may be achieved by focusing the measurement and parameter retrieval activities on the distance heat part of the system, whereas measurements in the core turbine-specific environment are not needed.

As set forth in claim 1, the second desired power output value is determined by adopting the mass flow and, a forward-flow temperature, and a return-flow temperature with respect to the heating condenser. Thus, such parameters as specified in claim 1 are measured and evaluated. Accordingly, in the control system based upon these parameters, the second desired power output value is determined. Thus, claim 1 sets forth a logical and functional relationship between the parameters of mass flow,

forward-flow temperature, and return-flow temperatures, and the desired second power output value within a control system of a power station.

In contrast to the Examiner's assessment of Coll et al. as specified in the Office Action, such a concept may not be derived from Coll et al. In Coll et al., even though a variety of parameters are listed which are to be evaluated in controller 125, Coll et al. does not teach or suggest anyone how, or in which configuration or combination, these parameters should be evaluated; nor which calculated parameters are derived from which input variables. Accordingly, the mere listing of various parameters is given in Fig. 2 or in the table on page 5 of the published patent application neither discloses or renders obvious a certain or specific combination of values as currently claimed. In particular, the listing of a large quantity of different variables in a complex system as the one disclosed in Coll et al., in view of its complexity, provides no specific information as to which parameters are selected for what purposes.

More specifically, in contrast to the Examiner's assessment, the claimed parameters of a mass flow, and forward and reverse flow temperatures of a condenser are not even mentioned anywhere in Coll et al. Instead, as is evident from Fig. 1, box 126 in Fig. 2, and the table on page 5, the condenser 102 is

exclusively equipped with a sensor S9 which delivers a measurement value of the condenser pressure. There is no hint that a mass flow through condenser 102 might even be evaluated in Coll et al. Accordingly, even though a large variety of parameters is delivered to controller 125, the parameters as currently specified in claim 1 (mass flow, forward-flow temperature and return-flow temperature), supplied in order to simplify the regulating concepts, are not even provided for the controller 125. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Coll et al. fails to teach or suggest or render such a limitation of claim 1 obvious.

With regard to claim 4, for at least somewhat similar reasons to those set forth in claim 1, Coll et al. fails to teach or suggest at least the computing unit, adapted to determined second desired value upon being supplied with at least a mass flow, a forward-flow temperature, and a return-flow temperature. Accordingly, independent claim 4, and all claims dependent thereon, is also allowable over Coll et al. Thus, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection of each of claims 1-8 in connection with the present application is respectively requested.

New Claims

With regard to the new claims, these claims are allowable for reasons at least somewhat similar to those previously presented.

For example, claim 10 is directed to a method, and includes a step determining a second desired power output value from a mass flow, a forward-flow temperature, and a return-flow temperature of a medium to be heated flowing through one heating condenser. At least such a limitation is not taught or suggested in Coll et al. Somewhat similarly, claim 14 is directed to a device including a means for determining a second desired power output value from a mass flow, a forward-flow temperature, and a return-flow temperature, and thus is also patentable over Coll et al. Accordingly, allowance of each of new claims 9-17 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the amendments and remarks, reconsideration of all outstanding objections and rejections and allowance of each of claims 1-17 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

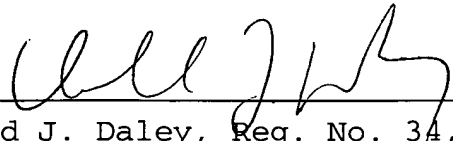
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any

additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37
C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By: _____


Donald J. Daley, Reg. No. 34,313

P.O. Box 8910
Reston, Virginia 20195
(703) 668-8000

DJD/bof